REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-26 are pending in the present application. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 1-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Izumi (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0132584).

Before turning to the outstanding prior art rejections, it is believed that a brief review of the present invention would be helpful.

In this regard, the present invention describes a wireless communication system which includes a plurality of terminals. In a non-limiting example, shown in Figure 10, the system comprises an ad-hoc network including Terminal A and Terminal B. Terminal A, using the ad-hoc network, sends a beacon signal to Terminal B that includes an identifier, used to identify the type of certificate of privilege, and an operation mode indicator, used to indicate the operation mode of the terminal. Terminal B then responds by requesting authentication using the type of certificate of privilege which matches the identifier and indicates a right concerning the operation mode.

Turning now to the §102(b) rejection in the outstanding Office Action, Applicants respectfully traverse the §102(b) rejection based on Izumi for the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites, in part,

> an ad-hoc network;
> a first terminal configured to send, using the ad-hoc network, a signal that includes beacon information having an identifier that identifies a type of certificate of privilege; and
> a second terminal configured to send, using the ad-hoc network, an authentication request to the first terminal in response to the signal sent from the first terminal by providing the type of certificate of privilege which matches the identifier.

Claim 2, 3, 7, 9, 11, 15, 16, 21, 23, 25 and 26 recite similar features.

Izumi describes a method of Bluetooth registration in which several apparatuses are registered with one another. Specifically, Izumi describes that a device A is registered with a device B followed by the device A registering with a device C. However, when device A registers with device C, device A also sends information to device C informing device C of the existence of device B.

However, Izumi does not describe or suggest a signal that includes beacon information having an identifier that identifies a type of certificate of privilege. Further, Izumi does not describe or suggest an authentication request to the first terminal in response to the signal sent from the first terminal by providing the type of certificate of privilege which matches the identifier.

In other words, Izumi describes that several terminals send messages to one another identifying themselves by providing Bluetooth ID numbers.[1] However, nowhere does Izumi describe beacon information that has an identifier identifying the type of certificate of privilege which is used by a first terminal. Even if the Bluetooth ID number is considered as being equivalent to a certificate of privilege (which it is not), Izumi does not describe or suggest that there are different types of Bluetooth ID numbers.

Additionally, Izumi does not describe that a second terminal sends an authentication request to the first terminal in response to the signal sent from the first terminal by providing the type of certificate of privilege which matches the identifier.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1 and similarly independent Claims 2, 3, 7, 9, 11, 15, 16, 21, 23, 25 and 26 patentably distinguish over Izumi.

[1] Izumi, [0064], [0065].

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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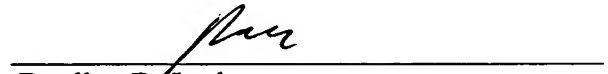

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